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Spying casts shadow over talks - Shultz

By Richard Beeston and Bill Gertz
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Secretary of State George Shultz yesterday said he was "damned upset" by Soviet penetration of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow — a scandal he predicted will cast "a heavy shadow" over his meetings there with Soviet leaders.

Mr. Shultz' comments came as the Pentagon announced that a fourth Marine once assigned to guard U.S. offices in the Soviet Union had been arrested in a growing sex-and-spy affair.

"We're damned upset about it," a grim Mr. Shultz said. "We're upset at them [the Soviets] and we're also upset at ourselves. And we intend to do everything to correct our problems."

The secretary, who is scheduled to leave this weekend for meetings with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, denied Kremlin charges that the scandal was a "dirty fabrication" intended to "poison the atmosphere in which Soviet-American talks are to be held."

"We didn't break into their embassy. They broke into ours," Mr. Shultz said. "They invaded our sovereign territory."

"They can't expect to continue to incessantly, massively work to create a hostile environment for our people overseas without a cost to themselves in their relations to us."

U.S.-Soviet relations have been severely strained since the arrest last December of a Marine guard assigned to protect the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

The Marine, Sgt. Clayton J. Lonetree, has been charged with allowing Soviet agents to enter secured areas of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and with unauthorized contacts with Soviets.

The subsequent arrest of three other Marines and disclosures of intense Soviet eavesdropping mea-

sures at the current U.S. Embassy and at the \$191 million embassy building now under construction have heightened tensions further.

Two House members back from a fact-finding trip to Moscow — Reps. Olympia Snowe, Maine Republican, and Dan Mica, Florida Democrat — said the embassy under construction was dangerously vulnerable to Soviet espionage. At least \$10 million and five years would be needed to repair the damage already incurred, the lawmakers said.

President Reagan on Tuesday said the United States will not occupy the building — nor will the Soviets be allowed to move into their new embassy in Northwest Washington — until he is assured that the U.S. facility in Moscow is secure.

Despite the squabble, Mr. Shultz dismissed suggestions that he cancel his Moscow trip, saying Mr. Reagan rejects "the view of some that if anything goes wrong, you just junk the whole thing."

Mr. Shultz said he had a "full plate" of issues to discuss with the Soviets, including arms control, Afghanistan, human rights and the embassy.

The secretary also said he plans to celebrate Passover with Jewish dissidents at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow on Monday to emphasize human-rights issues.

Among those reportedly invited to this year's Passover seder are Vladimir Slepak, who has been denied emigration rights and whose son Alexander is staging a hunger strike in front of the U.S. Capitol.

Before departing for Moscow, Mr. Shultz is due to meet today with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, who accompanied Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on her recent visit to Moscow to meet Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev.

Mr. Shultz, in his press conference yesterday, said he had been assured that there would be "secure communications" for his Moscow visit, including conference rooms protected against Soviet listening devices.

An administration official who declined to be named said security officials plan to send a "portable bubble" to Moscow as a secure communications room for the Shultz delegation.

The bubble, constructed out of high-technology materials that are impervious to Soviet radio and microwave interceptors, can hold up to 16 persons, the official said.

The idea of a secure recreational vehicle for Mr. Shultz is not a likely option, nor is the idea of holding meetings aboard a U.S. Air Force plane stationed at the Moscow airport, a 50-minute drive from the embassy, the official said.

Asked why he appeared surprised and upset by the bugging of the Moscow embassy when Soviet intelligence practices were well known, Mr. Shultz replied that "the reality of it is a shock," which he said "distresses us all."

On the security aspects of the embassy-bugging affair, Mr. Shultz said there was a clear chain of command.

"The person in charge is the ambassador," said Mr. Shultz, a former Marine. "The ambassador reports to me. So I am responsible."

Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole yesterday urged Mr. Shultz to tell Soviet leaders: "Enough of this nonsense."

If the Soviets "want any kind of productive relations," said Mr. Dole, who offered a bill that would permit the death penalty for espionage, "then they're going to have to play by some basic rules. And that better be the message Secretary Shultz carries with him."

The Marine whose arrest was announced yesterday was identified by the Pentagon as Sgt. John Joseph Weirick, 26, of Eureka, Calif.

He had been stationed at the U.S. consulate in Leningrad six years ago, the Pentagon said.

Informed sources said he was seduced into spying for the Kremlin by a female Soviet agent operating as part of a KGB intelligence service operation known as a "honey trap."

"It's the oldest ploy in the book in the second oldest profession," said one source.

A Pentagon source said Sgt. Weirick was "entrapped" by a female Soviet agent and is believed to have been co-opted with money or

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blackmailed into spying by the Soviets. He may have allowed Soviet agents inside the consulate, the source said.

Capt. Craig Fisher, a Marine Corps spokesman, said the 1981 case of Sgt. Weirick was not connected to the espionage case involving Sgt. Lonetree, who was arrested in December, and Cpl. Arnold Bracy, arrested last month.

Officials have said Sgt. Lonetree and Cpl. Bracy were seduced by Soviet women employed by the embassy and collaborated with them in a spy scheme.

Also yesterday, the Pentagon announced that Marine Staff Sgt. Robert Stufflebeam, arrested last month in California, has been charged with three counts of unauthorized contacts with a Soviet woman while assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow in 1985.

Sources said the Weirick arrest indicates the scope of the Marine security guard scandal has expanded beyond the Moscow embassy, and that other cases are likely to surface as part of the investigation.

Capt. Fisher, without elaborating, acknowledged that the methods used by the Soviets in compromising Sgt. Weirick were similar to the Soviet operation used to lure Sgt. Lonetree and Cpl. Bracy into allowing Soviet agents inside the Moscow embassy.

Capt. Fisher said Sgt. Weirick was being held "on suspicion of espionage and related activities, such as failing to report contacts with Soviet citizens, including women."

Sgt. Weirick was arrested Tuesday at the Marine Corps Air Station at Tustin, Calif., and is currently confined to the brig at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Pentagon officials said. He is expected to be transferred this week to the Marine base at Quantico, Va., where three other Marines have been implicated in the affair, officials said.

"It surfaced as a result of the ongoing investigation of Marine security guards," Capt. Fisher said.

Capt. Fisher said Sgt. Weirick was married, although it could not be determined if he was married during his tour of duty in the Soviet Union beginning Oct. 22, 1981, in Moscow and from Nov. 18, 1981, to Dec. 2, 1982, in Leningrad.
